

# Strawman Robotic Architectures

**Dr. Jim Garvin**

NASA Chief Scientist

January 25, 2005

# Lunar Architectures

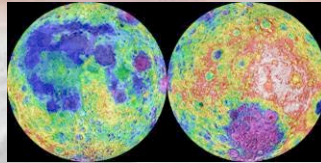
A 1<sup>st</sup> Step  
Back to Human  
Exploration...

## Approach:

- \* use what we have!*
- \* leverage int'l missions*
- \* leverage NASA pgm's*
- \* max value of LRO!*
- \* be inclusive*
- \* cost-constrained*
- \* science enabling*
- \* links to Mars "conops"*



# Lunar Precursors:



Classical  
Science

Hypothesis  
driven (SMD)

Robotic Precursors,  
human missions

Flight Demos etc.

**Integrated  
Mission Set**

Measurement  
driven  
(ESMD,SMD)

Engineering  
Capability  
driven  
(ESMD,SOMD)

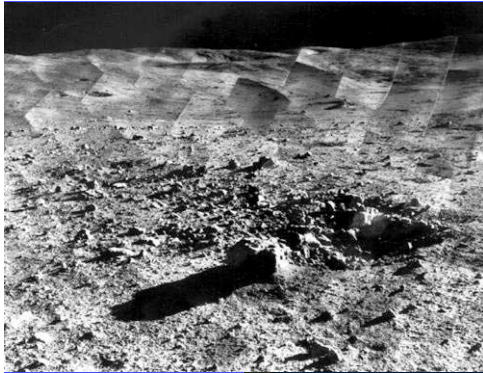
Applied  
Science  
Research

Engin./Tech.  
Demo's

Human on-site Activities

*Lunar Precursors should support all 3  
aspects of integrated Exploration!*

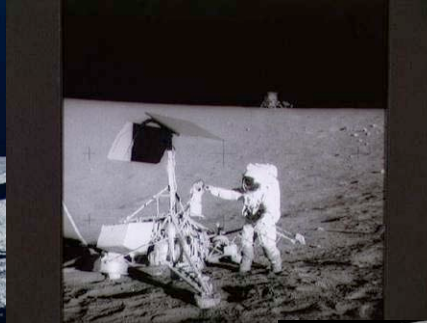
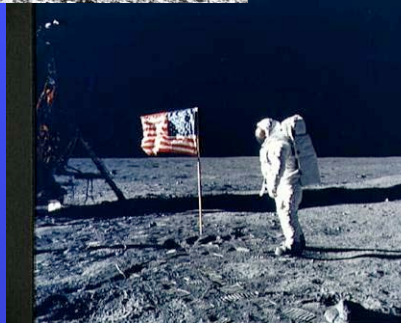




Surveyor  
1960's



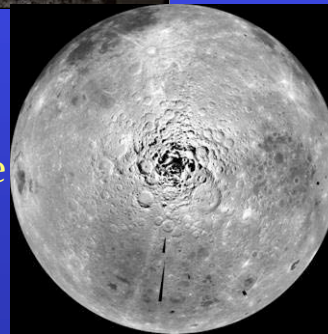
Apollo '69-'72



Earth-based Radar



Clementine  
1994



Lunar Prospector 1998

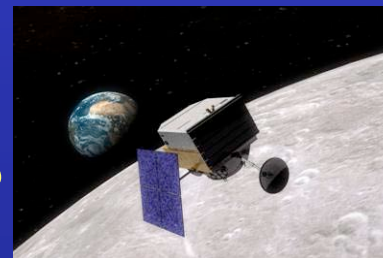


Selene (2007)



ESA SMART-1  
(2005-....)

LRO 2008



Lunar Surface:  
2009 - humans



Lunar pathway context

# LRO: A First Step...

## Example Questions and **Notional** Responses

2015 - 2020

*Deliver & operate supporting  
infrastructure as needed in support of  
human exploration*

*Must we return diverse  
biological Experiments to fully  
mitigate human issues?  
Robotic Biosentinel Return?*

Block II CEV - Human Flight

*Can local resources  
be utilized and how so?  
Landed ISRU  
Demonstration  
Lab/plant?*

*Can necessary infrastructure be  
forward based?*

*Communication & Navigation  
Station and laboratory (ISRU?)*

*How can performance of CEV  
critical elements be rapidly &  
inexpensively demonstrated?*

*Constellation Candidate  
Technology Demonstration?*

Block II CEV - CDR

*What must be done to enable  
routine access to the Moon?*

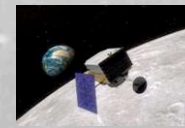
*Farside Gravity Mapper and  
Orbital Regolith mapping in 3D?*

Block II CEV - PDR

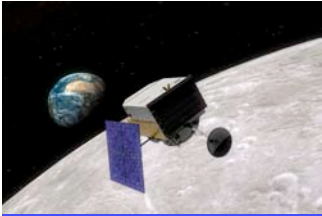
*Can the radiation  
environmental effects be  
mitigated? Validation of ice as  
a resource. Biological effects?  
Resources & Biological Effects  
Probe? Regolith/Biosentinel  
Experiments?*

*How bad is the radiation  
environment for humans? How can  
we land at the Poles? Are there  
potential resources (ice)?  
Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter*

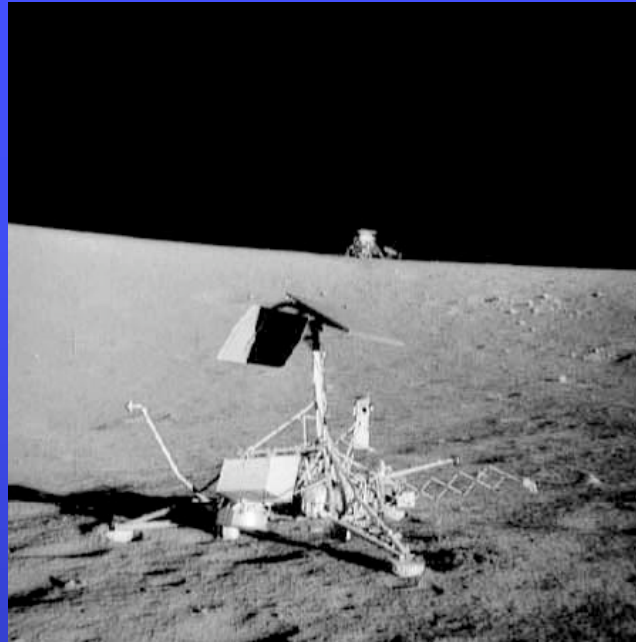
2008





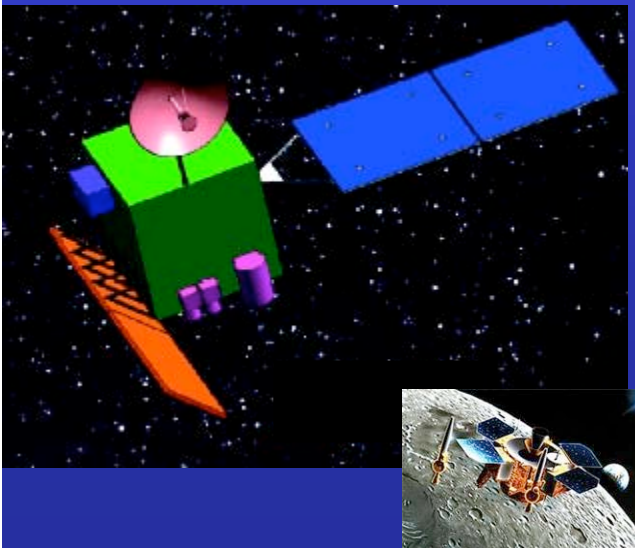


# What's Beyond LRO? *Some options*



## **Beyond LRO?:**

Exploration of a potential resource:  
*Validation of water ice and in situ biological sentinel experiments?*



## **Beyond LRO?:**

*Follow-on to LRO, filling key gaps, including regolith characterization in 3D, far-side gravity, landing site hazards, Telecomm. infrastructure?*

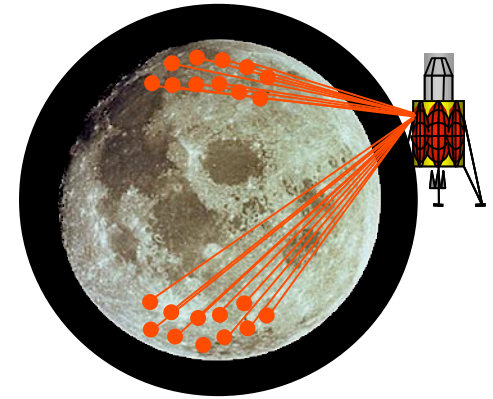
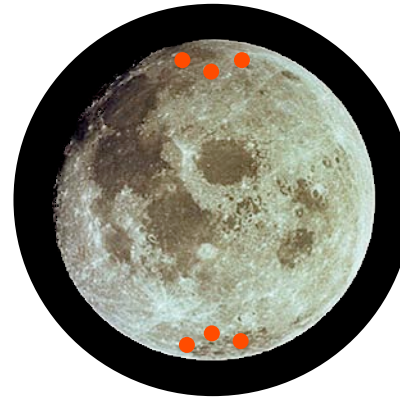
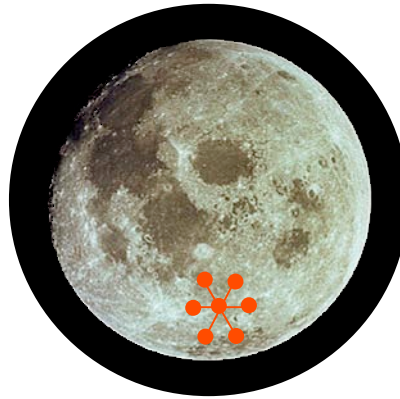



**Beyond LRO?:** *potential lunar biol. expt. returns and demos?*



# Examples of Surface Interrogation Techniques

(courtesy GSFC RLEP)



 Lunar Rover	Lunar Mortar	Lunar Probes	Lunar Samplers
<p>Rovers require larger LV capability to provide detailed investigation of a localized area. Not well suited to dark crater operations at 50 deg K. Travel somewhat limited by sunlight. Needs drill for depth penetration, or EM sounding equipment; may need special robotic sample handling gear.</p>	<p>Mortar type probes deployed from central lander or descent craft can cover a larger area and perform short lived investigations of dark craters before freezing, using central craft as a data relay. Can use kinetic energy for depth penetration.</p>	<p>Probes deployed from an orbiting mother ship can cover the globe, live for short times in cold traps, and relay data to the mother ship.</p>	<p>Sampling probes gather very small samples from many sites and return them to an orbiting lab on the mother ship. Increases lab instrument mass. Labs and probes from different missions can interact. Increased failure robustness. Communicate directly from mother ship. Technically less mature.</p>
<p>Soft landed rover systems mature in most areas; GSFC <i>Investigating cryogenic capability upgrades and drilling system</i></p>	<p>Hard landers/penetrators much less mature: GSFC <i>Investigating current military hardened devices which would need different payload accommodations and navigational enhancements.</i></p>	<p><i>GSFC Investigating propulsion systems available for decent and hard/medium landing systems as well as instrumentation solutions with help of RFI's from industry/academia.</i></p>	<p><i>GSFC Investigating super micro technologies propulsion system staging, rendezvous and docking. Highly innovative somewhat more risky ultra simple short lived low cost, very small mass solution. Unique custom design not mature at this time.</i></p>

# Priorities for human precursor investigations and technology?

- Search, define, and characterize polar deposits. *[LRO + tbd]*
- Navigational-communication *[LRO + tbd]*
- ISRU Oxygen, volatile extraction. *[beyond LRO...in situ]*
- Biological/radiation experiments *[LRO + in situ...]*
- Precision landing/hazard avoidance *[beyond LRO...]*
- Resource Mapping: orbital-mineral/chemistry, magnetics, gravity *[LRO + beyond, including in situ?]*

- Characterize regolith *Human-based ?*
  - Sampling, manipulation, in situ analysis, health & engineering problems (high-dust environment)
- Manufacturing of photovoltaic cells.
- Environmental impact & bio-organic contamination.
- High resolution topography of potential lunar base sites. *[LRO]*
- Validate shielding.
- Earth imaging

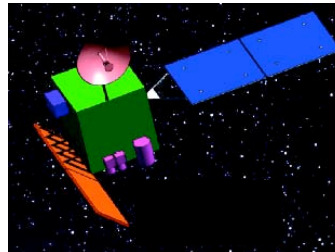




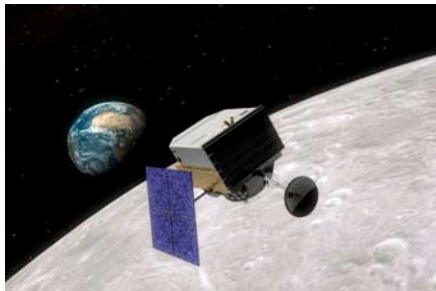
# Notional Lunar Robotic “architecture”



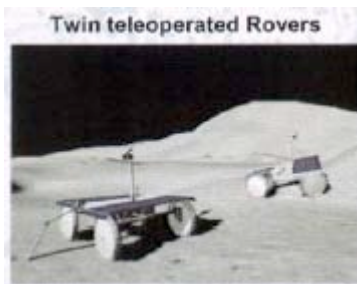
Japan's *Selene*  
( launch in ~2007):  
Resources, color imaging,  
farside gravity, ...



~2010  
Lunar SAR  
Regolith  
Mapper w/  
Biosentinel  
Expt.?



*LRO 2008:*  
*Topo, ice, rad,*  
*Cold traps,*  
*Shadows, hazards*



Twin teleoperated Rovers

~ 2010 Exploration Tele-  
Rovers for Resources etc.  
(25km traverse “testbed”)

~2012-2014  
Teleroovers to S. Pole?

2013-2015  
LDEF Bio Diversity  
Sample returns?



~2011-2012:  
S. Polar sample return  
(ice/rock/biosentinel ret.?)

~2009/10 RLEP  
Lunar  
Surface  
Interrogator  
(ice validator,  
bio. to pole?)



2013-2015  
RLEP  
Landed ISRU  
Demos, Lab?  
Telecom.?



2016-2020 1<sup>st</sup> humans:  
Testbed “visits”

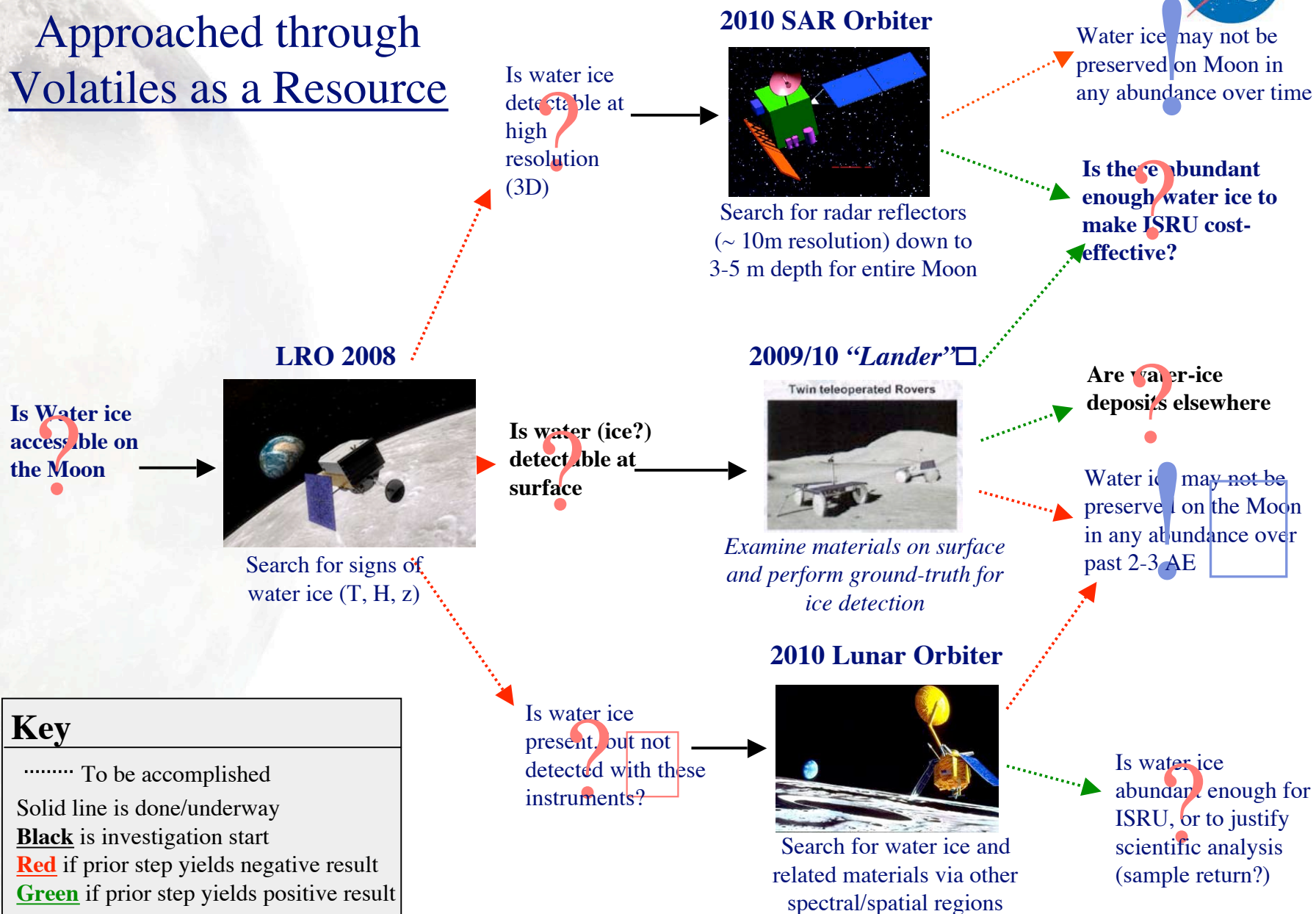


*Lunar Strategy: Garvin*

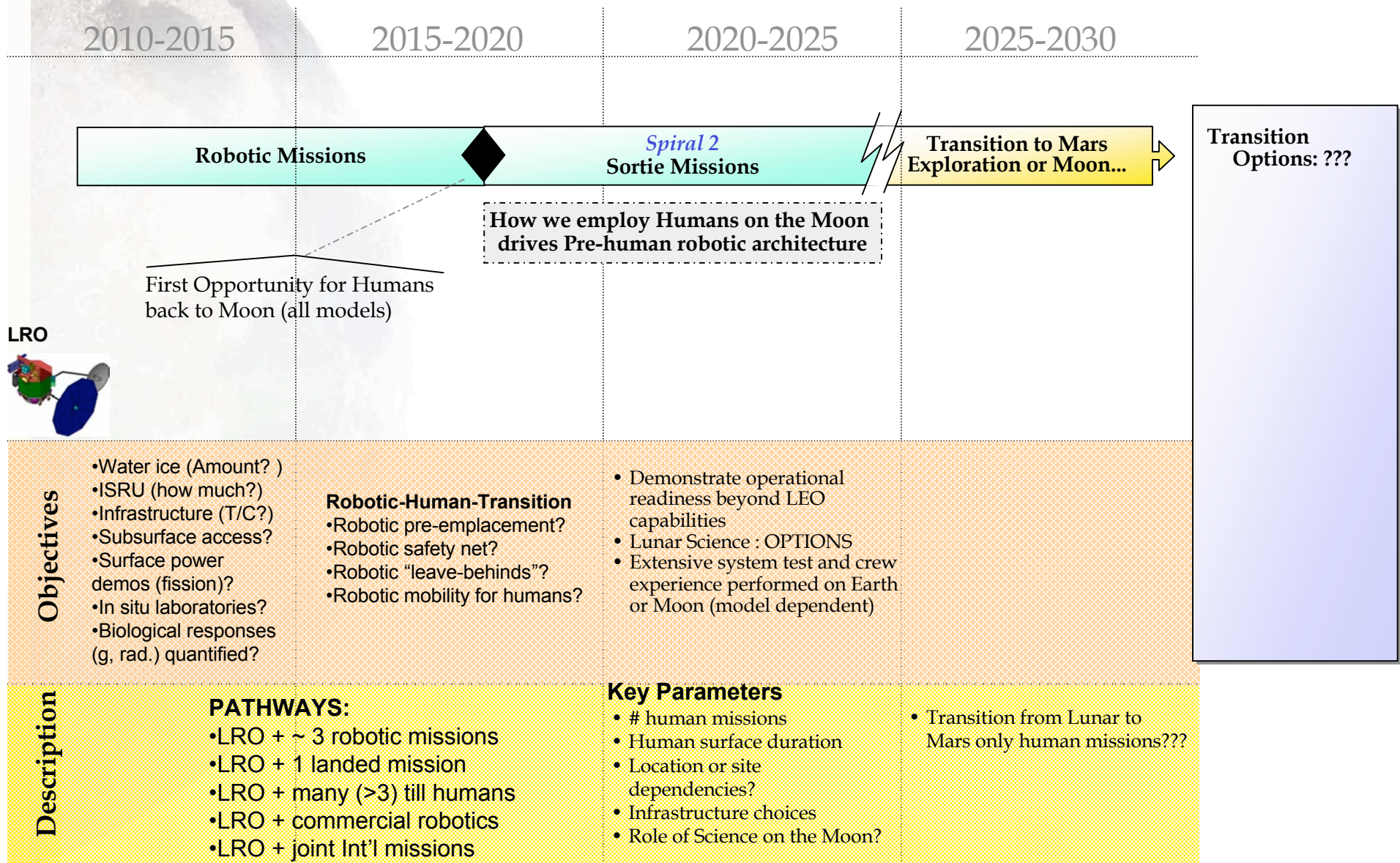
# Lunar Exploration: Example of one logic...



## Approached through Volatiles as a Resource



# Options: Depends on Human Missions







## Human Mission Models...*Robotic Antecedents?*



- **Evolution emphasis**
  - Multiple Sorties... crews do more, demos, resources, ISRU Expts.
  - Early human emphasis, *limited robotic precursors beyond LRO*
  - Apollo Class sample return
- **Early Outpost**
  - *Robotic emphasis for demos, resources, ISRU, sampling*
  - Commit to single centralized location..
  - Evolvable to hub/spoke model
- **Expedited *Moon to Mars*: “Gemini of APOLLO” Model**
  - Sortie missions to Moon of Apollo class (no ISRU) early
  - *Terrestrial analogue emphasis prior to human sorties*
  - *May minimize robotic precursors after LRO and 1<sup>st</sup> landed mission?*
  - Earliest Mars visit possible
- **Commercial-emphasis (COMSAT model)**
  - Let Commercial Authority do NavCom, Data-buys, Habs, etc.
  - Commercial systems do Tele-operation for Business
  - NASA with commercial authority indemnify for 20 years etc.
  - *NASA goes to Mars, abandon MOON*
  - *NASA robotic precursors beyond LRO and 1<sup>st</sup> Lander ideally limited*

4 Human Options from Cooke et al.